(vi) Facility of LTC to Central Government employees suspended for two years.

(vii) A high Level Expert Group set up to review the existing pension system and to provide a roadmap for the next steps to be taken by the Government. Those who enter Central Government services after October 1, 2001 to receive pension through a new pension progamme based on defined contributions.

(viii) Administered interest rates being reduced by 1 to 1.5 per cent points as of March 1, 2001.

Planning Commission's Recommendations for Second Generation Reforms

4243. SHRI R. P. GOENKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the major second generation reforms that the Planning Commission has recommended;

(b) Government's response to these recommendations; and

(c) the reforms that Government propose to undertake in the next one year and the strategy outlined therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) to (c) The Draft Tenth Plan Approach Paper, which contains, *inter alia*, some suggestions on reforms that need to be implemented, is yet to be cleared by the National Development Council (NDC).

Removal of BPL and APL Categories

4244. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government want to remove the "Below Poverty Line" and "Above Poverty Line" categories; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.